

REMARKS

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on November 3, 2005, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. Claims 2, 4-8, 10, 13, 15-19, 21 52 and 53 are now pending in this Application. Claims 52 and 53 have been indicated as being in condition for allowance. Claims 52 and 53 are independent claims and the remaining claims are dependent claims. In this Amendment, claims 2, 4, 10, 13, 15 and 21 have been amended and claims 1, 3, 9, 11-12, 14, 20 and 22-51 have been cancelled. A version of the claims containing markings to show the changes made is included hereinabove. Applicants believe that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance. A notice to this affect is respectfully requested.

Claim 1-9, 11-20 and 22-51 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,574,630 to Augustine (hereinafter Augustine) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,167,630 to Hemphill et al. (hereinafter Hemphill). Claims 10 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Augustine in view of Hemphill and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,496,568 to Nelson (hereinafter Nelson).

The Examiner indicated that claims 52 and 53 are allowed. Claims 2, 4 and 10 have been amended to depend from claim 52 and claims 13, 15 and 21 have been amended to depend from claim 53. Claims 2, 4-8 and 10 are therefore believed allowable as they depend from a base claim which is allowable. Similarly, claims 13, 15-19 and 21 are therefore believed allowable as they depend from a base claim which is allowable. The remaining claims (1, 3, 9, 11-12, 14, 20 and 22-51) have been cancelled.

Accordingly, in view of the above, the Examiner's rejections have been overcome, placing claims 2, 4-8, 10, 13, 15-19 and 21 in condition for allowance with allowed claims 52 and 53, and reconsideration and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigning attorney if there are any questions regarding this Amendment or this application.

If the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office deems a fee necessary, this fee may be charged to the account of the undersigned, Deposit Account No. 50-0901.

If the enclosed papers or fees are considered incomplete, the Patent Office is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned collect at (508) 366-9600, in Westborough, Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,

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